

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 10 (Canceled)

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A method for identifying a microorganism suitable for producing L-glutamic acid by fermentation accompanied with precipitation of L-glutamic acid in a liquid medium, which comprises inoculating a sample containing microorganisms which have the ability to produce L-glutamic acid into an liquid medium containing a carbon source and L-glutamic acid at a saturation concentration, and selecting a strain that can metabolize the carbon source.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 11, wherein a strain that can grow in the liquid medium is selected as the strain that can metabolize the carbon source.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 11, wherein the pH of the liquid medium is not more than 5.0.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 11, wherein the liquid medium is an acidic medium.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 12, wherein the pH of the liquid medium is not more than 5.0.

Application Serial No. 09/641,892  
Response to Office Action mailed November 12, 2004

Claims 17 – 24 (Canceled)

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-10, 14, and 17-24 have been canceled.

The substitute specification filed on July 24, 2003 has also been amended to correct a typographical error. This is the same amendment that was filed and entered on October 3, 2001.

No new has been added to this application by the present amendments.